

House Resolution

No. 66

Introduced by Assembly Member Wesson

July 10, 2002

House Resolution No. 66—Relative to commending the Honorable Dennis A. Cardoza.

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable Dennis A. Cardoza is drawing to
2 a close his tenure with the California State Assembly following six
3 years of exemplary service, and it is appropriate at this time to
4 highlight the many achievements of his illustrious tenure and to
5 extend to him the highest commendations of the people of the
6 state; and

7 WHEREAS, Elected in 1996 to the first of three very effective
8 terms in the California State Assembly representing residents of
9 the 26th District, Dennis Cardoza, as a freshman member of the
10 Assembly, chaired the Agriculture Committee and, more recently,
11 served as Chairman of the powerful Rules Committee; and

12 WHEREAS, He also was a member of the Budget and
13 Governmental Organization Committees and Chair of the Select
14 Committee on the Department of Motor Vehicles and Select
15 Committee on the Development of the tenth campus of the
16 University of California; and

17 WHEREAS, Assembly Member Cardoza helped forge the
18 Moderate Caucus of Democrats, and he was honored by a wide
19 group of Valley organizations for his efforts to cut taxes, help
20 family farms, and promote education and safety issues for
21 children; and

1 WHEREAS, He was twice named Legislator of the Year by the
2 California Sheriff's Association, was honored by the University of
3 California as Legislator of the Year for his work on behalf of the
4 University of California, Merced, and was selected as the 2001
5 Legislator of the Year by the Small Business Roundtable and Small
6 Business Association; and

7 WHEREAS, A champion of common-sense solutions to the
8 challenges facing twenty-first century California, he authored the
9 original Vehicle License Fee Reduction (VLF), one of the largest
10 tax cuts ever to pass the Legislature, which has returned \$5 billion
11 to California vehicle owners through significant and ongoing
12 reductions of license fees; and

13 WHEREAS, He has been a strong and effective advocate for the
14 families of men and women who served in our country's hour of
15 need, and he has been a great friend of veterans of all conflicts and
16 wars, working on their behalf as a member of the Governor's
17 Commission on Veteran's Homes; and

18 WHEREAS, During his freshman term, Assembly Member
19 Cardoza wasted no time in authoring urgency legislation to
20 provide tax relief for people hard hit by the ruinous losses resulting
21 from the devastating floods of 1997, and never forgetting his roots,
22 he crafted many pieces of legislation to stimulate the local
23 economy, and worked to ensure small communities in his district
24 were not left out of the digital revolution; and

25 WHEREAS, Assembly Member Cardoza was untiring in his
26 efforts to establish a University of California campus in the Central
27 Valley, with branches already operating in Fresno, Bakersfield,
28 and Modesto; and

29 WHEREAS, Despite his quick rise to a prominent position in
30 the Assembly, Dennis Cardoza never forgot his agriculture roots;
31 his grandparents emigrated from the Azores Islands of Portugal in
32 the first part of the twentieth century to farm the rich Merced
33 County soil, and the Cardoza family raised dairy cattle and grew
34 sweet potatoes, almonds, watermelons, wheat, oats, and alfalfa;
35 and

36 WHEREAS, Assembly Member Dennis Cardoza lives in
37 Atwater with his wife, Dr. Kathleen McLoughlin, and their three
38 children, Joey, Brittany Mari, and Elaina; and

39 WHEREAS, Through his public service activities he has made
40 a significant impact on the people of the 26th Assembly District



1 and throughout the state, and he will be greatly missed by those
2 individuals with whom he has been associated; now, therefore, be
3 it

4 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, That the*
5 Members express their commendations and appreciation to their
6 colleague, the Honorable Dennis A. Cardoza, for his outstanding
7 record of dedicated service to his constituents and to all of the
8 people of California, and convey to him best wishes for every
9 success in his future endeavors.

